

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, In the spring of 1988, Mary Jo Renner was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy, a life-threatening heart disease; and,

*Whereas*, Mary Jo was always a healthy individual with no family history of heart disease, but was suddenly experiencing erratic heart rhythms; and,

*Whereas*, Mary Jo was able to stabilize her health condition with medication, therefore, allowing her and her husband, Roger, to adopt two special children, Alex and Katie, fulfilling their dream of a family; and

*Whereas*, In August 2001, Mary Jo and her doctors decided it was time to go back on a transplant list for a heart, which was an emotional roller coaster filled with relief and fear; and,

*Whereas*, Mary Jo was in relatively good health, and within 10 days she received word that a heart was available; and,

*Whereas*, Following an 11-hour surgery and 17 days in the hospital after which she was released to the Gift of Life House in Rochester and spent 3 months recuperating, she was then able to go home; and,

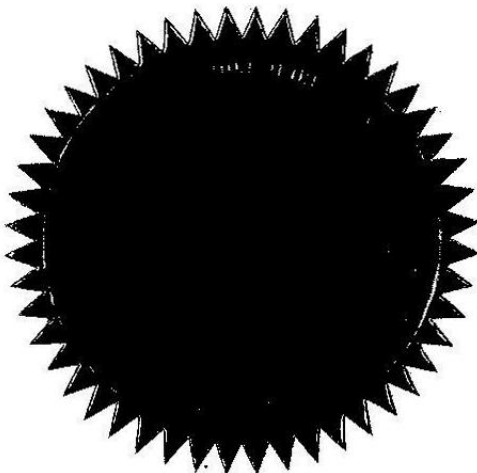
*Whereas*, Mary Jo is an advocate of organ donorship and knows there is a great need for donors throughout the nation; and,

*Whereas*, A Gift of Life celebration will take place from 7-11 p.m. on Saturday, October 18, 2003, at the Knights of Columbus Hall at Yankton, South Dakota:

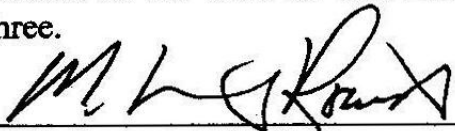
*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 18, 2003, as


### *MARY JO RENNER DAY*

in South Dakota, and I join her family, friends, and all of her supporters in wishing her continued good health and happiness.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifteenth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:  
  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State